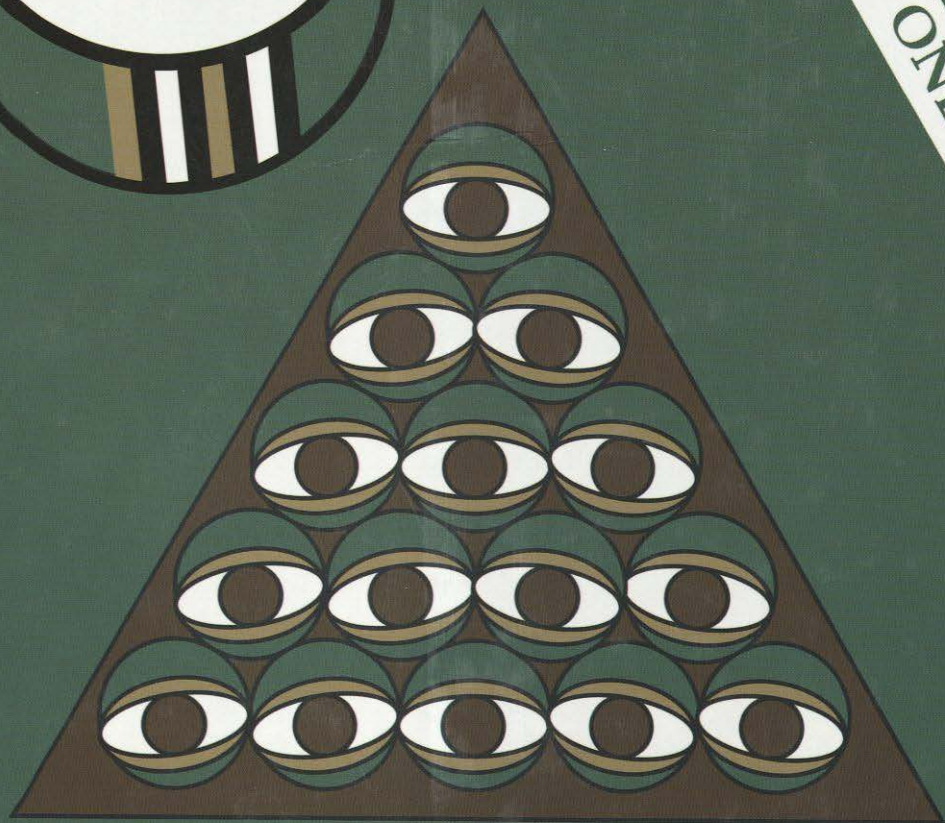
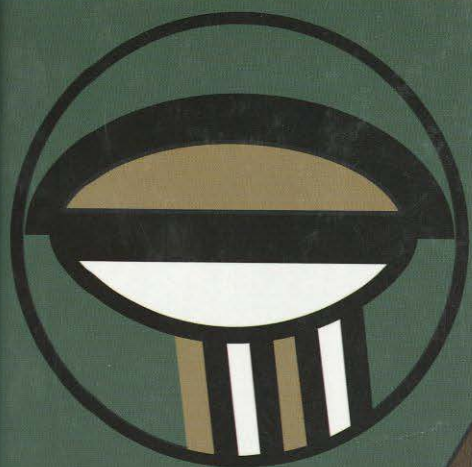


PRINT & ONLINE



# THE AFRICAN STUDIES COMPANION

**A Guide to  
Information  
Sources**

4th revised and  
expanded edition

**Hans M. Zell**

Hans Zell Publishing  
Lochcarron

# The African Studies Companion:

## A Guide to Information Sources

*4th revised and expanded edition*

Editor:  
Hans M. Zell

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**Hans Zell Publishing**  
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## Preface to the 4th edition

This information source builds on three previous editions of the *African Studies Companion* and the new fourth edition, like its predecessor, is again published both in print and in electronic formats.

The new edition has been thoroughly revised and updated, and once again substantially expanded. Although over 170 entries have been dropped, the page extent has almost doubled to that of the third edition, and the total number of entries has grown to more than 2,900.

While fully updated and including a large number of new entries, the aim of this fourth edition remains essentially the same as that of previous editions: to provide a compact, timesaving, and annotated guide to print and electronic information sources, and to facilitate easy access to a wide range of information in the African studies field. The fully searchable electronic edition is regularly updated online to provide maximum currency.

Content is arranged in an expanded format of 25 main sections, many with several sub-sections, offering a wide array of specifics for most entries. As for previous editions, the majority of listings identify *general* (multidisciplinary) and *current* sources of information, primarily those in English, but organized from a wide international perspective.

Updating and verifying existing entries, particularly for online resources, journals, organizations, publishers, and libraries in Africa, has been a time-consuming task. Quite apart from changes in personnel and contact information, URLs and email addresses do change frequently, for example in the section relating to journals and magazines over 40 per cent of all Web sites had changed since publication of the last edition. There have also been a very large number of URL changes in the section on academic libraries in Africa, as many institutions moved from various host servers to their own new domains.

### Critical evaluation of sources

As in many other disciplines, there is now growing information overload on Africa and African studies in today's cyber world. This makes the need for critical evaluation evermore important, and annotations in the *African Studies Companion* are now more evaluative rather than purely descriptive.

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